

size
all
3125
p2

NOEL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

NOV 16 1995

LSU SHREVEPORT

*NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SHREVEPORT, LA.
PERMIT NO. 1134

The *Almagest*

Thursday, October 5, 1995

LSU in Shreveport

Volume 28, Number 16



photo by Rita Uotila

LSUS fall baseball is underway. See page seven for details.

LSUS minority enrollment up

Don McDaniel
Almagest

Recently Northwestern State University in Natchitoches announced a tremendous increase in enrollment for the fall semester. Judging from the parking lots one might assume that enrollment at LSUS is up also. A check of the figures shows this is not true. Enrollment is actually down compared to a year ago. Enrollment has maintained a flat line on the graph for the past several years.

Total enrollment stands at 4,233 students for fall of 1995, compared to 4,237 students in the fall of 1994, according to Kathy Plante, director of admissions for LSUS. On the positive side, first time students, freshmen or students transferring from other schools, is up 8.6 percent, Plante said. Also on the increase are minority students. Minority enrollment rose from 19.28 percent to 19.46 percent, while the African American student population rose from 14.47 percent to 14.72 percent of the overall student population.

Despite strong competition from other schools Plante said, "We have, through

aggressive recruitment, managed to rectify that situation. We will continue to expand our efforts to diversify our student population and continue to offer a quality education to those that chose to come here."

The major selling point for recruiters here is the availability of class times. LSUS offers classes at an array of times for the convenience of students. "In fact," Shannon Bailey, admissions counselor, said, "it's possible for a student to receive a degree and never see the campus in the light of day."

Two former graduates of LSUS are now working to help boost enrollment figures. Laura Holman, a 1993 graduate, and Shannon Bailey, a 1994 graduate, are bringing the personal touch to prospective students as they promote the university in the community and the surrounding area. Bailey said, "I think it is important to contact students several times after the initial meeting and let them and their parents know that we would love for them to attend our university; to let them know that if they do choose to come to LSUS, they won't just be another number."

Results so far have been positive. Applications for admission have increased by 25 percent. The graduate student population is rising also. The student body is also more diversified, as students from a wide variety of foreign countries have made LSUS home. According to the 14 day enrollment report issued by the admissions office, students are listed from Belgium, Finland, China, Australia, Peru and Yugoslavia just to name a few. According to the office of admissions, only five are true foreign students. That is students from a foreign country that have come here expressly to attend school.

Students bear the brunt of University Center costs

David Raiford
Almagest

The student activity fund carries more than its fair share when it comes to the operation of the University Center, according to Gloria Raines, vice-chancellor of Student Affairs. Raines is concerned about the lack of money left over in the student activity fund after the operational expenses of the University Center are paid.

Currently the student money is used to pay for the University Center Debt Service (payment on the bond sold to build the UC) in the amount of \$68,400, the University Center Custodian \$67,400, University Center Building Service \$22,100, and University Center Maintenance \$49,100. Raines said the current lack of distribution of the cost of running the UC isn't equitable.

Under the current system fees are waived for any university group who wants to use the UC for a school related function. Raines is concerned about the use of student fees for non-student activities. In a memo August 1, 1995 to the members of the Chancellor's Advisor Committee, Raines noted that the number of reservations of the UC by university officers and departments far exceeds the number of student reservations. Raines said the current system should be discussed among the campus community to

find a solution and a more fair way of distributing the cost of holding functions at the UC. "I'm not trying to gouge the departments," said Raines. "We all use the UC, but it's not fair for the students to have to shoulder the entire cost." She also said that more of the activity money needs to go towards entertainment activities and less for custodial and other maintenance expenses.

Dr. Sura Rath, chairperson of the English Department, said the numbers of student groups versus the number of administration groups using the UC is misleading. According to Rath some student groups may reserve the UC through the various departments and colleges of the university making the numbers inaccurate. Rath, who is among those opposed to departments being charged for the use of the UC, said he feels that a fee charged to some of the groups who use the UC would eventually lead to those groups holding their activities elsewhere. Rath said his department doesn't have enough money as it is, and if it was charged for using the UC to hold guest-lectures and other events those events would eventually have to be discontinued. If those types of events are no longer held, Rath said it would be the students who suffer. "I push my faculty to bring speakers to the university for the students benefit. If we can't afford to do

See *University* on P.2

Campus Political Organization Disbands

Kevin Blanchard
Almagest

Just as the election season begins to gain momentum, the College Republicans have decided to temporarily disband, citing insufficient membership.

Dr. Jeffrey Sadow, the club's advisor, said membership had fallen below the ten student minimum required to qualify as a student organization. "In a commuter school, where many students have jobs, there is little interest in taking on extra activities," explained Sadow.

College Republican activities have included hosting guests to speak on current

issues, and volunteering for campaign work.

The break up leaves LSUS with no partisan political organization. Sadow expects the club to reform by election time, however. Sadow said that interested students should look for an announcement in *The Almagest*.

LSUS has traditionally been a conservative university. A 1988 straw poll administered by the College Republicans found that 81% of LSUS students supported George Bush for President. "In a way, you're a victim of your own success. The support is there, but when there is no opposition around, why organize?" said Sadow.

Inside this issue!

Dr Sadow runs for office
(p.3)

Library Antics
(p.5)

National Weightlifting Meet
(p.7)

EDUCATION FOR THE REAL WORLD

Graduate degree programs (MA, Ph.D) in International Affairs with an emphasis on contemporary policy-relevant issues.

Area and Functional Fields:

- ☐ Interamerican Studies
(including U.S.-Latin American Relations)
- ☐ European Studies
- ☐ Post-Soviet Studies
- ☐ Comparative Development
- ☐ International Business
- ☐ International Economics
- ☐ International Health Policy
- ☐ International Relations Theory
- ☐ International Security and Conflict
- ☐ Foreign Policy Analysis

Apply by February 1
for assistantships and other
financial aid.

North-South Center
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

Students who are interested in Interamerican issues are particularly encouraged to apply for North-South Center Graduate Assistantships.

**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**
Admissions, Room #302
Coral Gables, FL 33124-3010
(305) 284-4173

UNIVERSITY OF
Miami

University from P.1

that, who suffers?" asked Rath.

Rath is also concerned with the priority that is given to the functions held in the UC. Both Rath and Raines agree that the demand for the UC is high. Rath said many of the outside groups who use the UC have the resources to schedule and reserve the building months, or in some cases, years in advance, while smaller organizations have trouble finding an open date to reserve the Center. Rath, who has been active in raising money for LSUS in the form of scholarships, said the university should place a priority on the groups who contribute to LSUS in determining who gets to use the UC.

Rath said he believes a function of the university should be to expose students to a wide variety of cultural experiences. Rath said those cultural experiences should be more than entertainers and parties. Rath explained that many of the activities he arranges at the Center, concerts, dance recitals and lectures, often lead to donations to the university. He pointed out that he has nothing against beauty pageants or any of the other functions held in the UC, but he questions the benefit to the university. "Should we go with short-term or long-term commitments," Rath. "The University should look beyond a one-time commercial ben-

efit," he added.

Dr. Raines said she agrees with Rath about holding diverse activities in the Center. However, she believes the effect on the different departments and their functions would be minimal if the cost was evenly distributed. "I'm not sure what the solution is," Raines said. But, she is adamant that the students are paying more than their fair share.

Rath agrees there's no easy solution. "I have a problem with no solution," said Rath. He added that he is willing to work with Raines on finding a way to solve their mutual problem.

Breast cancer awareness this month

Tricia Webb
Almagest

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It is a month that should be recognized by men and women alike.

According to the Susan G. Koman Breast Cancer Foundation, an estimated 200,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year. That's more than one every three minutes. Unfortunately, almost 50,000 will die. That's one every 11 minutes. In addition, about 1000 men will develop breast cancer, and 300 will die. And, the incidence of breast cancer rates have increased about 3 percent per year since 1980.

Breast cancer is the leading killer of women between the ages of 35-54. Since there is no known cure for advanced breast cancer, early detection is a must in

treating this disease. Figures from the American Cancer Society show that with early detection and prompt treatment, as many as 91 percent can survive.

Mammography is recommended every 2 years for women between the ages of 35 and 49. Women 50 and over should have a mammogram every year. Although cases are rare under age 35 and most common over age 50, every woman is at risk from breast cancer. It is a good idea to learn how to do self breast examinations (BSE) early. If all women would do BSE, see their doctors regularly, and have mammograms as recommended, 95 percent of all breast cancer could be stopped before becoming fatal. Unfortunately, only about 41 percent of women follow these guidelines.

Health-care professionals are the right people to teach you BSE. They can demonstrate the correct method, and

supervise your initial examination, answering any questions you may have.

The National Cancer Institute, the American Cancer Society, and the American Academy of Sciences have all issued guidelines recommending a reduction in fat consumption from 40 to 30 percent in the average women's diet, as well as a decrease in total caloric intake. When the rate of breast cancer in countries whose diets are low in fat are compared with the U.S., there is a striking difference. We have a significantly higher incidence of breast cancer. So, obviously, diet has a great deal to do with breast cancer as well.

Remember, 85-90 percent of all breast cancers occur in people with no known risks. So, nobody is invincible. Make a commitment to yourself, and then make one to others by helping to spread the word.

SAB plans eventful fall

Brian Allen
Almagest

Thanks to the LSUS Student Activities Department, there will be no shortage of things to see and do this semester. Fans of music, movies, or comedy will have their appetites satisfied by a variety of special events.

October will feature several events, including one in which students will provide the entertainment. LSUS is one of only 100 campuses selected to compete in the Mastercard Acts (American Collegiate Talent Search). Students will compete for cash prizes as well as the chance to go to the national finals in Nashville, Tennessee.

Before dreaming those dreams, students will have to go to UC 232 to fill out an application for the first round of ACTS, which will be held in the UC Theater on October 26. Interested students must sign up by October 6.

"It's the first night of Fall Fest, and it will be lots of fun," said Karen

Mischlich, student activities director.

Not only is fun a motivating factor, but the winner of the talent search receives a \$250 cash prize.

Fall Fest will be held on October 26-27. Fall Fest features games, and food, and is an opportunity for campus organizations to recruit new members.

October 28, in the University Center Ballroom, students can travel to Planet Transylvania with the cast of the Rocky Horror Picture Show. The cult classic encourages raucous audience participation. The show begins at midnight.

Student Activities will also show a series of movies throughout the semester. October's flicks are Pulp fiction, The Basketball Diaries, and Higher Learning. Contact SAB at 797-4104 for more information.

Carrot Top, the comedian whose last appearance sold out the UC Theater, returns on October 30. Carrot Top has appeared on the Tonight Show and will soon be hosting his own show on the Cartoon Network.

Have a Jousting Good Time

When

Dr. Merrell Knighten

discusses

Arthurian Legend

Tues, Oct 10th BH 261

at 10:30 a.m.

Free! Free! Free!

sponsored by Club E

EXTRA INCOME FOR '95

Earn \$500 - \$1000 weekly stuffing envelopes. For details - RUSH \$1.00 with SASE to:

GROUP FIVE
57 Greentree Drive, Suite 307
Dover, DE 19901

LSUS professor, opponent seek office

Darren Svan
Almagest

Dr. Jeffrey Sadow, a political science professor, is a candidate for the District 8 seat on the Caddo Parish Commission. Sadow, who is a Republican, began teaching at LSUS in 1991. He earned a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of New Orleans before coming to LSUS four years ago.

Election day for Caddo Parish Commissioners, as well as several other state-wide races, is Saturday, Oct. 21. The 8th District includes LSUS and most of the area surrounding it. The district also encompasses a majority of Southeastern Shreveport.

"In terms of education and income, it (the district) is the highest of the entire parish. A lot of professional people live in this district," Sadow said.

Sadow said he had no idea he was even going to enter this election until three months ago. He said sometimes a citizen must step-up and assume a leadership role in politics if no other quality person will.

"A lot of people asked. I had no idea I was going to do this until the middle of July, which was right before the Republican endorsement. I had always assumed that someone good would step forward and it didn't seem to happen. Eventually one of the Republican party officials called me and asked me if I was interested. And eventually I said, 'yea I would think about it.'

"I never thought about doing it before but I said, 'if you need somebody I could probably do it.' One person called and another person called and another person called, so finally they convinced me I was going to be the one who needed to run. I stepped forward to do it because no one did and sometimes you just have to do it yourself, and I'm doing it myself," Sadow said.

Sadow's opponent, John Escude', said he is running because he is tired of the way the Caddo Parish Commission is handling itself. Escude' is the manager of New York Furniture and the Vice-President of

the North Louisiana Chapter of the Louisiana Retailers Association.

"I believe the Commission needs change. There seems to be a lot of gridlock and it seems it has become difficult for some commissioners to get along with one another. I think basically it comes from not being able to respect the difference of opinion and not allowing another person his opinion.

"Basically we need to respect each others view even if we have differing views and allow them their opinion. I believe there are a couple of people on the Commission who, instead of representing the District and the people of Districts they are elected to represent, they seem to just have their own personal and political agendas motivating them. They fail to listen to what their constituents want," Escude' said.

Escude', also a Republican, is the father of two children and he is actively involved with little league sports. Escude' said the major difference between the two candidates is that Sadow is a knowledgeable teacher of political science, whereas he is an established businessman in this community.

"I think the major difference in the two of us is that his background is naturally in political science and he's been a great student of it, and politics and issues as well. From my perspective, I think government, particularly at the Commission level, needs to be run more like a business.

"I'm general manager of New York Furniture Company. It's a company my family owns. I'm used to working within a budget and having to create new jobs and attract new industry in here as well as advertise and dealing with government regulations, providing benefits and training employees. Not getting compliance out of them but sitting down and explaining to them and trying to win them over to my way of thinking so we have cooperation," Escude' said.

Sadow thinks that government and governmental powers should be limited. He said he would serve on the Commission for only one term. However, if he could not accomplish all his goals in one term he would run for a second term.

Sadow said, "I'm generally considered quite conservative. In terms of what that means for the Commission, I would want to see, first of all, more efficient use of the money. One of the big problems is we can't tell how the money is being spent. The way the financial reports are done it's just extremely difficult. We need to reform that by having the line item budget, which is not being used now.

"Once we get a handle on that and we find out where the money is going we can reallocate it to better usages. And ultimately you can start to drop the millage on the property taxes. I'm convinced there is wasteful spending in there, so once it has been identified and dealt with then you won't have to renew as many of the prop-

erty tax millages that are being assessed. It's a matter of limiting government and limiting the amount of money and ultimately power that government has," Sadow said.

The Republican party officially endorsed Sadow but Escude' said the decision was much closer than most voters realize:

"Well, actually it was like a straw poll or ballot to see who could get the most people out and vote. And actually it was a little closer, it was actually a one vote difference," Escude' said.

However, Sadow said he does in fact have the majority of Republican support: "Right now basically every important Republican party elected official, or party official, or people who are prominent in Republican politics in the district, are going to vote for me."

Sadow added, "It seems a consensus anyway that this guy is not a quality candidate. They (Republican Party) don't think he will reflect well on the party and the Commission."

Although both candidates are Republican, they have differing goals if they were to be elected to represent the 8th District.

"I want to make sure that how we deal with crime is on a deterrence basis. Focus on deterrence rather than rehabilitation. Rehabilitation is fine but it's not its own solution. You always need deterrence. You have to get the cost of the commission of crime in people's mind to exceed the potential benefits. Only deterrence based solutions will do that.

"One of the things down the road I'm thinking about is metropolitan government. There have been feasibility studies and I think ultimately I would like to move toward that. I think it would produce some cost savings and it would be a more efficient form of government," Sadow said.

A metropolitan government would combine the major services provided by the city and county into one entity. For example, instead of having a Sheriff's department and a Shreveport Police Department, they would become one department. Additionally, the city would pick-up trash in rural areas instead of contracting the service.

Sadow said, "Things would run much more efficiently that way. There would be a common government, a metropolitan government. There would be one commission in other words. There would be no Caddo Parish Commission and City Council. They would become on government."

Sadow points to places like Nashville, Tenn., and Baton Rouge as examples of cities that are working more efficiently with a metropolitan government. He said that Shreveport would be perfect for this type of government because 80 percent of the population of Caddo Parish are living in Shreveport.

Escude' said, "We definitely need to

do something with CDC and it looks like they (the Commission) are going to sit on their hands. The state needs to be allowed use of it, or it needs to be leased to the state. Certainly I don't advocate giving it away, it's a valuable piece of property and crime is a big issue on people's minds.

"I want them to convert it to geriatric



Dr. Jeff Sadow

facility. That would approximately free-up 600 prisoner beds in Angola, create about 400 new jobs here, and probably allow us to transfer a great deal of our 400 plus prisoners that are currently in our parish jail, who are really wards of the state. They belong down in Angola," Escude said.

Most of all Escude' said he wants to bring back integrity to the Caddo Parish Commission. He also wants to put the budget on a line item basis. "I think the Commission should approve the budget and budget changes. But if anything is changed after the budget resolutions is passed I don't think the administrator should have soul authority to do that. I think the Commission should have to approve any changes or transfers of funds once they have signed off on the budget," he said.

Sadow said that his campaign is not interfering with his responsibilities as a professor at LSUS. He thinks that as long as he doesn't bring the campaign to the classroom he is still fulfilling his obligations here. He pointed to our current interim Chancellor, Dr. Vincent Marsala, as an example of someone who is dedicated to this university and was also successful on the Commission. He added that since he is a professor of political science, in the future, he will be able to relate to his students some interesting anecdotes from this campaign, instead of just teaching directly from the textbook.



John Escude'

Drew White
Editor

Dr. Jack Nolan
Advisor

David Raiford
Associate Editor

Flynn Dulle
Production Manager

Emilie Rachal
Business Manager

The Almagest

To Keep Students Informed
Office No. 797-5328

Member: Southeastern Journalism Conference,
American College Press Association,
Columbia Scholastic Press Association

USS Louisiana should serve nation, state well

The USS Louisiana is due to launch in 1996. This is a big day for the state, as this boat may be the only Louisiana-related object that works as planned.

The Louisiana is a Trident Missile Submarine, and is capable of spanning the globe and destroying it should the need arise. This boat will for many years keep the bad guys on edge, and should serve as a source of pride for Louisiana.

The residents of this state have had more than their share of hard luck. The roads are impassable, the schools are among the worst in the nation. With the political choices of late, there appears little hope for improvement. Sometimes all it takes is something small (or in this case, large) to improve a states confidence and pride.

If the opportunity arises, find a way to tour this boat. There is no way to walk the passageways of a Trident submarine without feeling some patriotic stirring. All of the brass gleams and all of the machinery hums along with a purpose. All of the crewmen go about their duties with the steely-eyed determination of a man whose shore-time hangs in the balance.

It boggles the mind to think that somewhere soon, a foreign strongman will hear the name Louisiana and feel fear, not pity. Up until its launch, many third-world dictators will have more in common with Louisiana than we might want to admit. To be fair, however, many third world countries have lower teen-pregnancy, and higher english literacy rates.

During my brief stint in the Navy, it

became obvious that each and every vessel has its own personality.

While serving on the USS Nevada, I swear I heard the faint sound of slot machines under the whir of the turbines. If the Soviets had only thought to develop a submarine called the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Nevada would likely have run aground.

Friends on the U.S. Sherman swore that the place was a fire hazard.

The Louisiana will most likely have the best food in the fleet. The cooks will be huge, but they will know their business.

Maintenance might well turn out to be a problem. If the boat runs true to form, the old Louisiana tradition of leaning-on-your-shovel maintenance will fix everything. With luck the captain will never be indicted by a grand jury. The odds of an ex-Nazi joining the crew are slim.

John Andrew Prime of *The Times* has reported that a contest is underway to design the ships logo. Something in a pot of gumbo rampant upon a field of squirrel-dogs seems appropriate. Or perhaps the ever-present "substandard roadway" sign, held aloft by a morbidly-obese chef.

Despite all of the problems inherent in its namesake, the USS Louisiana will have no trouble deciding upon a motto. There is another old state tradition that should fit perfectly. Thank goodness for the USS Mississippi.

Drew White
Editor

Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to The Almagest office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. The Almagest reserves the right to edit letters.

Charming by Flynn Dulle

Technical Speak:
Query the ambiguous
condition of the vertical
preposition?



Plain English:

What's Up?



National Coming Out Day

Kurt Milton Pickett

In 1986, the Supreme Court handed down the most controversial and influential ruling on sodomy laws in the country's history. In this case, known as *Bowers vs. Hardwick*, the Court, by a one vote majority, ruled that state sodomy laws are constitutional because the constitutional right to privacy is not extendable to homosexuals. And because this ruling has dictated the outcome of virtually every subsequent gay-rights case in the country, a cascade has resulted in the endorsement of unchecked discrimination against lesbians and gay men. The decision could have been different.

In a speech he gave after he retired from the bench, former Justice Lewis Powell, the deciding vote in *Bowers vs. Hardwick*, stated that if he could cast his vote again, he would reverse it, striking down sodomy laws. Stating that at the time of *Bowers* he had not known any lesbians or gay men, he attributed his change in thought to his subsequent relationships with homosexuals. Merely that he knew a lesbian or a gay man was enough to convince him that he had been wrong.

Having been out for some time, and having attained the unparalleled liberation that I now feel because of it, I have always been astonished by the reluctance of most lesbians and gay men to come out. I am certainly not oblivious to the threats of violence and discrimination that keep most queers in the closet, riddled with fear. But does the closeted lesbian actually avoid discrimination, or does her closet allow for her more certain abuse? As Randy Shilts observed in *Conduct Unbecoming: Gays and Lesbians in the United States Military*, many lesbians in the military are targeted for rape as a matter of punishment and because the rapist can use the threat of dishonorable discharge as a method to blackmail the victim into silence. But this activity is not limited to the military; it occurs in every aspect of the American private sector. And while I am in no way implying that the victim is at any fault for the attack or for the blackmail, lesbians who are out of the closet cannot be treated this way. Their courage alone overpowers the rapist while the closet entices him. The closet, for the rapist, is security.

The gender-bending gay man who conceals his sexuality—who omits any discussion of his sexual identity from casual conversation

or who (even worse) lies to himself and everyone about his sexuality: Does he actually conceal anything? Do you, the heterosexual, have any trouble identifying him? Of course not. Queers (especially gay men), by and large, stick out in a crowd. Most of us are effeminate; it is the one part of what we are that is not easily concealed (though I spent much of my adolescence futilely attempting its concealment). And because of this, no one is fooled when a gay man lies and says he has a girlfriend, or when he omits discussion of his sex-life from all his conversations—something that no heterosexual does. In fact most heterosexuals proclaim their sexuality all day long, every day, either by holding hands, wearing rings, or just talking about their relationships. The fact that closeted gay men don't make these commonplace proclamations makes their omission obvious. The only person who is fooled is the gay man. And because everyone sees him concealing his sexuality, most are left with only one conclusion: There is something inherently shameful about being gay. This is what heterosexuals are taught and their experience with closeted homosexuals confirms their beliefs. These beliefs, being largely responsible for the innumerable gay-bashings and murders that happen every year, were also responsible for Justice Powell's vote.

It is obvious that the closet protects no one except those who seek to rape, murder and limit liberties. And because October 11 is National Coming Out Day, I see no reason why LSUS should not join in the battle against bigotry. Accordingly, I call on all students, faculty, staff, and administrators of LSUS who are gay or gay friendly to change LSUS forever by coming out. On October 11, 1995, announce your sexuality or your gay-friendly opinions to the world by celebrating **GAY JEANS DAY**. Show the campus who you are and what you believe by wearing blue jeans all day long on October 11.

When you come to class, or to work, on October 11, the campus will be asking: Are you wearing jeans or not? This is an opportunity for queers to come out and an opportunity for queers to know who their true friends are.

So that we can remove the protection for rapists, and so that we can bring the gay basher to justice, and so that the next Supreme Court Justice who is deciding the vote will instate liberty, I ask you to incite queerness.

O p i n i o n

Forced heirship serves only to disrupt lives

Margaret Holt
Almagest

As it stands, the Louisiana Constitution prohibits the Legislature from abolishing forced heirship, but on October 21st, you — the voter, will have the chance to change that. You will have the chance to enjoy the freedom to decide where your personal property will go upon your death — a freedom that is already enjoyed by citizens of the other 49 states. You can have this freedom if you vote "yes" to a Constitutional Amendment which will allow the people, not the politicians, to decide the future of forced heirship in our state.

According to current Louisiana Civil Code, if an individual has one child, that child may claim one-fourth of the parents' estate. If an individual has two or more children, they may claim one-half of their parents' estate. The code also prevents Louisiana residents from giving away personal property — except to charities — during their lifetime. A spouse may leave the surviving spouse legal ownership of property inherited by forced heirs for his or her lifetime, but due to a 1992 court ruling, a spouse cannot leave legal ownership of property to a surviving spouse of a second marriage when children from the first marriage are inheriting the property.

Article 1621 of the code outlines 12

just causes for which parents may disinherit children. The catch is, lawyers cannot assure clients that their wishes will be followed after their death. The court could rule that there had been forgiveness or that just cause for disinheritance did not exist.

Why should all of this matter to you? It should matter to you because many of your friends and family have had to endure years of unnecessary hardship because of greedy children and step-children. It matters to me because I have watched my 71-year-old grandma suffer, both economically and emotionally, since my grandpa died 13 years ago.

My grandpa married his first wife at a young age and had two children. The marriage didn't work out, and a divorce occurred. Five years later, my grandpa met my grandma, and they were married. They had two children together, and were happily married for 36 years, until the day of his death. There had never been any ill-will between my grandma and her step-children, who were both adults at the time of my grandparents' marriage. Grandma always welcomed them into her home, and Grandpa continued to help them out financially — even though they were both married and had jobs.

When my grandpa died it was very sudden — he had a heart attack in his sleep. However, he did have a will, and in that will, he made it clear that he wanted

my grandma to inherit his entire estate. He also included a personal letter stating that it was his wish that the two step-children forego their half so my grandma could be financially secure. They refused.

My mother had passed away when I was an infant, so my grandma only had one surviving child to help her. In the midst of making funeral arrangements and trying to console a teen-age granddaughter, my grandma and uncle were left to battle the two step-children and their families.

They wanted their share of the estate, and they were not going to budge until they got it. The "estate," by the way, consisted of my grandparents' home, the property it was on, two cars, and the small amount of money they had in their savings and checking accounts.

Grandpa was an emotional wreck, and she didn't have the strength to fight them, so she borrowed some money from a friend (not knowing if she'd ever be able to pay it back), and she paid the step-children for their half.

At the time of my grandpa's death, Grandma was 58-years-old, so she couldn't receive social security benefits for another two years, and she didn't collect anything from the life insurance policy for a year.

It's been 13 years since I watched my grandma suffer — wondering if she'd

have enough money for groceries, or if she'd be able to pay her electric bill. She's much better now, financially speaking, but the emotional effects of the ordeal still linger.

Why should Louisiana be the only state subjected to this sort of dictatorship? How can we ever expect to attract a significant population of retired persons if forced heirship is hanging over us like a dark cloud? The income and medical care of retirees would have a significant impact on our economy. According to a recent article in *The Times*, the number of people over age 62 will more than double and reach more than 84 million by the year 2040. For each one percent of that population we could attract to Louisiana, we would add \$53.9 billion to the state's personal income aggregate, and this would generate \$5.6 billion in personal taxes and user fees for state and local government. We simply cannot afford to keep forced heirship laws which frighten away potential retired residents. October 21 is your chance to say so! Say "no" to letting the government decide where your hard-earned property and money goes by voting "yes" to the Constitutional Amendment which will repeal the provision banning the Legislature from abolishing forced heirship.

SGA questions Zaporochetz on Library finances

David Raiford
Almagest

What's been going on in the SGA? The September 12, meeting was consumed with a question and answer session with Dr. Laurene Zaporochetz, dean of the library.

Senators questions to Zaporochetz ranged from the lack of availability of the copy machines in the Library to the general lack of availability of the Library itself.

Concerning the copiers, Zaporochetz said she has contacted the maker of the machines about their constant mechanical problems. It seems that when the machines were bought, they were bought under the assumption that they were heavy volume machines. Zaporochetz said the copier company representative told her the machines malfunction when many different fingers press the buttons on the machine.

Not being mechanically-minded, I have no idea what different people pressing buttons has to do with anything, but that's the problem with the copiers in the Library according to Dr. Z. I suppose a

copier performs better when it knows the fingers doing the pressing.

Eventually the Senate got around to asking Zaporochetz about the Library's hours of operation. In case you didn't know, our Library shares a commonality with the Banking industry. It's open only at those times when it is least-likely to be used.

Several Senators expressed their concern that the Library isn't open on Saturday or at night. Zaporochetz told the Senators the Library was closed when it is because there isn't enough money in her budget to be open the entire weekend. When asked how much money it would take to keep the Library open for four hours every Saturday, Zaporochetz replied that it would take an additional \$30,000 per semester. I don't know, maybe she was mistaken, maybe that's for an entire year. If it costs \$2,000 dollars a week to keep the library open for a few hours, maybe we should invest in a book-mobile and park it in the common-area. It wouldn't have a sexy-elevator or satisfy the ego of an elderly man with a big book collection, but hey, we're used to sacrifice. Seriously

though, this issue of "no money" for the Library is real. Over the past 6 years the Library budget has been cut by almost 50 percent, thanks to our former Chancellor who is probably not a big fan of Libraries in general. My guess is that over the years of fighting with Finland's favorite son over her budget, Zaporochetz has turned the Library hours into a political football. Meaning that unless she gets some more money she's not going to open the library any longer than it currently is. Zaporochetz probably hopes that the outcry from students will grow to a level that will force the administration to find some money for the library. Two problems; One, this university isn't too big on listening to its students; Two, apparently the university isn't too big on listening to its Library staff.

The meeting ended with Zaporochetz taking down the complaints of senators and promising to bring them up to her staff.

At the September 19, meeting, senators discussed the possibility of discontinuing telephone voting in SGA elections. The bill was proposed by Senator Matt Williamson. Williamson said his

concern was over the integrity of the elections. Primarily, the relative ease of someone fraudulently voting multiple times. Furthermore, Williamson said he doesn't like turning-over election vote counting to the Administration.

In favor of keeping telephone voting was Senator Cynthia Godbey. Godbey said that the convenience of telephone outweighed the possibility (according to her a small possibility) of voting fraud.

According to Scott Wolf, SGA vice-president, the number of students voting didn't change with the implementation of telephone voting, the telephone method was about half as expensive. The voting was split 4-4 on the bill with Wolf casting the tie-breaking NO vote.

In other business, the SGA passed a bill by Cynthia Godbey aimed at putting suggestion boxes in many LSUS buildings.

Speaking of suggestions if you have a particular suggestions or gripes (or praise) and you want everyone to read them. Write us a letter and drop it off at the Almagest BH: 344. (see letters policy)

No place to hide, nowhere to run

Melanie Humphrey
Almagest

It wasn't what you would call your "average" day. Two weeks had passed since being informed of the upcoming annual "inventory" of Kelly Ford Tractor, Inc., and the day had finally arrived. As a mere secretary, you can imagine my enthusiasm. The last thing I wanted to do on a Friday night was to go bravely searching through a dusty parts warehouse where one could easily reach into a box and upset a nest of spiders.

At 5p.m. we closed the front doors to customers and braced ourselves for this hateful chore. There were about 12 of us so we worked in teams of two. I paired up with one of the mechanics, Mike Tillison, affectionately known as "Dog," who insisted that he should look through the boxes and I could search for the part number on the Bin Count Listing.

"Who says chivalry is dead?" I thought to myself. My night was looking better!

For what seemed like years, we diligently worked in the warehouse until all those parts numbers began to run together and our productivity dwindled. It was about 11p.m. and we were all pooped. Mr. Kelly, our boss, called us all together.

"Let's call it a night," he said. "We can start again at six in the morning."

This announcement was followed by a myriad collections of moans and groans. Before we could protest more, he held up his hands and said to soften the blow, "Would ya'll like to go get something to eat? It'll be on me!"

Believe it or not; some went home. I, on the other hand, am not one to pass up a free meal so I agreed to join them at Denny's.

I should have just gone home. Little did I know that my life was about to change.

The six or seven of us had just ordered and were waiting patiently for our food when we heard a sound that I am sure none of us will ever forget.

"POW!"

Suddenly, we heard the sound of glass shattering and someone shouted, "Everybody down! Someone's shooting at us!"

I have never been so scared in my entire life. As we all tried frantically to hide under the tables we realized that there was truly no place to hide. We were surrounded by windows. Those tiny tables offered no protection. Because it was so dark outside, we could not see out, but we knew that whomever was out there could see in.

A man who had been sitting in front of the

window where the bullet entered sat bleeding as his wife held him and cried. His neck had been cut by the flying glass. He was OK, but he could have been killed instantly. I was sitting not two feet from where he had been sitting.

As I sat there huddled under the table, listening to the quiet sobbing of my friend, Evelyn, I came to understand two things.

First, I had naively looked at the world as a good place. I had always thought nothing about eating at a restaurant late at night and walking alone to my car. I had felt safe sitting in that establishment with my friends and co-workers. I realize now that it was just my age. At 21, I believed that I was going to live forever. I had always strived to be kind and giving to those less fortunate than myself. Why would anyone have a reason to hurt me? Don't get me wrong; I did know that there were violent people out there. I simply didn't think that they would do anything to me. Now, I haven't become cynical or pessimistic. I simply take a lot more precautions than I used to, and I pay more attention to the things going on around me.

Secondly, my belief in the power of prayer is stronger than ever. There was nothing else I could do. There was no place to hide. My life was passing before my eyes. All

the mean things I had ever said or done were vividly remembered as well as many cherished moments I had collected. I was not ready to die. All I could do was pray that God would see me through this.

The only thing in this life that is ever constant is the love of God. I find that I lean on Him more and more every day. Looking back, it is very surprising that I didn't just break down that night. I did, of course have myself a good cry when I got home, but being able to pray openly gave me a sense of security that I could not have had otherwise.

The police were on the scene within ten minutes. What we thought was a bullet had been a ball bearing. The officer told us that a group of teenagers had been going around town shooting them into restaurants with a sling shot.

"They've just been lucky enough not to kill anyone yet," he said.

Although it's been almost two years since that night, sometimes it really seems like yesterday. All I have to do is close my eyes and the sounds and emotions are with me again. They remind me that life is not always happy or just, but trusting in the love of God will always bring security and, in turn, hope.



MASTERCARD ACTS

A Talent Search Featuring The Best Student Entertainers In America

Performances You've Gotta See By The Brightest Stars On Campus!

1ST PLACE - \$250.00

SIGN-UP IN STUDENT ACTIVITIES - UC 232

SHOW DATE: Thursday, October 26, 1995 Time: 7:30pm

LOCATION: University Center Theater



S p o r t s

Home games a reality

Trey Bereget
Almagest

The LSUS basketball program will have a different look this season. They have added many new faces to the men's and women's teams as well as a spring-loaded wooden floor in the Health and Physical Education Gym.

The floor, which was delayed four years because of funding problems, was finally finished over the summer with the help of local legislators who raised money to have the floor installed. The \$96,000 floor, built by Gentry and Holder Floor Company, is designed as a floating floor system. The floor consists of several layers of plywood laid on top of concrete with rubber pads placed between each layer. The pads function as springs under the final layer of flooring made from maple wood.

In addition to the floor, new bleachers and retractable goals are scheduled to be installed before October 6, by Interstate Company. However, Interstate has requested a 65-day extension on the \$120,000 project because they believe the measurements they were given for the bleachers are wrong. The request for an extension was denied and a meeting between Interstate and school officials is temporarily scheduled for next week. The materials for the bleachers have to be shipped from Minnesota. Once the materials arrive it will take Interstate approximately one week to finish the bleachers.

With the addition of the new bleachers the gym will have a seating capacity of close to 1,000, almost 10-times more than the portable bleachers previously used. The bleachers are going to be painted gold and royal blue.

New Family wins big one

Brian Allen
Almagest

Monday, the defending intramural flag football champions New Family met and overcame their first real obstacle, defeating Diversity 13-7. The most anticipated game of this young season lived up to its billing with big plays and intense emotion.

Mike Callender started at quarterback and showed the same form that led his former team, the Outcasts, to last year's championship game. Small wonder, as he's still throwing to the same tandem of Jason Jagneaux and Tim McKnight.

McKnight scored first, but was answered almost immediately by Diversity's Eric Wynns, who turned a five yard-yard dump pass into a touchdown. If you like offensive highlights, you may as well stop reading because there were only

three touchdowns in the entire game. The defensive adjustments made at halftime worked for both teams, as they spent the second half denying each other scoring opportunities. Chad McDowell came in at quarterback for the Family, but even the team's MVP couldn't loft one over the invisible brick wall suddenly constructed by the Diversity defense.

New Family appeared to have the win well under wraps after Mike Callender intercepted Robby Smith just prior to the two-minute warning, but they would have to dodge one final bullet before celebrating. With seconds left, Danny Morgan picked off an errant Chad McDowell pass and began heading upfield.

As half his teammates screamed, "Get out of bounds!" and half countered with "Keep running!", Morgan decided on the latter. With New Family Defenders bearing down on him like a pack of rabid wolves, the sidelines and the end zone probably seemed equally far away as Morgan heard the distinctive sound of his flags being torn from his waist.

After his team left everything they had on the field, Smith said, "I'm disappointed. We should have won the game."

Eric Wynns admitted his long run left him winded in the second half, but said his team isn't ready to push any panic buttons yet. "We're still going to State. Other than New Family, who else can go?" asked Wynns.

Since the ten teams from LSU Medical Center are holding their own tournament, two of LSUS' teams can attend the state tournament. The Big Uglies and the Greyhounds have forfeited out of the league, leaving only the three campus fraternities to prove that flag football isn't just a two-team league.

LSUS hosts national weightlifting meet

Shelly Cole
Almagest

The National Collegiate Weightlifting Championships will be held in the LSUS theater (University Center) this Saturday and Sunday. The competition will begin at 11 a.m. both days.

LSUS weightlifting coach, Dr. Kyle Pierce, said "there has been very low student involvement in past years," and he hopes students will come out in support of the team.

Students, Jennifer Pierce and Angela Jones, will represent LSUS in the meet. Pierce's qualifying weightlift totaled 198 lbs. Jones' total, 236.5 lbs, qualified her for

this competition as well as the National Men and Women's Championships in March.

The competition will bring big names to the LSUS campus. Cassie Clark and Lance Vermeil, the son of Chicago Bulls' strength coach, Al Vermeil, are among those registered to compete.

Clark was the overall silver medalist in her weight division at the World Championships this year. She has been nationally recognized by *Sports Illustrated* for being "the first female ever to qualify for the Junior Men's team." *SI* reported that if Clark would have competed as a male in the 1994 National Junior Weightlifting Championships "she would have finished third."

1995 World Championships bronze medalist, Angie Fredrickson will also compete.

If Lance Vermeil is of the same caliber as his coach, Urik Vardanian, he could take home a medal of his own. Vardanian is a seven-time record holder for the snatch and the clean-and-jerk.

Vardanian was also the winner of the 1980 Olympic weightlifting competition.

The National Collegiate Weightlifting Competition, October 7 and 8, will begin at 11 a.m. both days. Admission is free for any student with a current ID and is two dollars for the general public.

LSUS Pilots drum Wiley College

Shelly Cole
Almagest

The Pilots baseball team racked up two wins in the first week of the fall season.

The Pilots led off with starting pitcher Steve Prejean against Marshall's Wiley College Saturday, September 23. The Pilots stomped Wiley 23-4.

The Pilots earned another win against Bossier Parish Community College Monday, September 25, slipping by the Cavaliers 4-3. The winning run was driven in by second baseman Mike Hickock. Kyle Arcenau closed against the Cavaliers, earning his first save for the year. Kai Hill was the starting pitcher.

The fall season only lasts for one month.

The Pilots were scheduled to play two more games against other colleges, but they were rained out.

Last week the Pilots played an intrateam series. The team was divided into two 15 player teams for a four game series. Elledge said other colleges have been doing this for years; it gives the players a chance to practice competitively in the fall.

This season will end with an alumni game, Sunday, October 8. The alumni game is played with former LSUS baseball players.

Pilots baseball's new head coach, David Elledge, recruited heavily for this year's team. There are 31 players on the roster for the Fall season. Elledge will keep 25 players for the Spring season.

Benji Piazza, Jeff Smith and Micah Rockwell will return to the Pilots' lineup this year.

Left fielder, Piazza, is a senior this year at LSUS. He earned a batting average last season of .288.

Elledge said Jeff Smith, also a senior, will probably be the Pilots' designated hitter this season. Smith's average last season was .298.

Micah Rockwell makes his return after batting .350 for the Pilots last season. "He is one of the top [hitters] in our conference," said Elledge. Rockwell is a sophomore and will be playing third base.

Elledge said the future for Pilots baseball looks bright. The Pilots' first game for the Spring season will be February 10.



Photo by Rita Uotila
Micah Rockwell, sophomore 3rd base, in action at Pilot baseball practice.

Campus Organizations

IS YOUR ORGANIZATION PLANNING AN ACTIVITY, FUNDRAISER, ETC. CALL THE ALMAGEST: 797-5328

BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

Activities: Bible studies, discipleships groups, mission action
Meets: 11:00 and 12:00 p.m. Wed. and Thurs. at 7 p.m.
Contact Skip Noble, 797-1946

COLLEAGUES

Activities: Volunteer services for Volunteers of America, parties
Meets: Tues 10:30 a.m.
Contact Skip Noble, Jim Hicks, 797-5102

COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

Activities: Guest speakers, work in political campaigns
Meets: every Tues. at beginning of month
Contact: Dr. Jefferey Sadow, 797-5159

GOLDEN Z CLUB

Activities: Projects focusing on illiteracy, the environment, scholarships avail.
Meets: 2nd and 4th Tues. each month.
Contact: Anita Harkness, 797-1946

MAINSTREAM CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Meets: Tues. and Thurs. 10:30 a.m.
Activities: Outdoor concerts, weekend fellowships and trips, volunteer work.
Contact: Lori Bennet, 797-1946

ROTORAC

Meets: Two meetings per month
Activities: Student service org. One service project per semester, luncheons
Contact: Dr. Paul Merckle, 797-5240

S'PORT/BOSSIER CAMPUS MINISTRY

Meets: Thurs. 10:30 a.m. in UC
Activities: Weekly devotionals, socials, service proj., retreats.
Contact: Dr. Mary Ann Shaw, 797-5193

SPJ-LSUS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST

Activities: Guest speakers on topics related to the field of Journalism. social functions.
Contact: Michelle Millhollen, 797-5328

TAE KWON DO

Meets: TBA
Activities: Campus events, tournaments, self-defense clinics, rape prevention
Contact: Regina Washington, 631-9976

WEIGHTLIFTING

Meets: TBA
Activities: Workouts, clinics, competition in local, state, nat'l meets.
Contact: Kyle Pierce, 797-5271

ACJS/ Lambda Alpha Epsilon

Meets: 1st and 3rd Thurs. ea month
Activities: Various community activities, speakers on Law Enforcement ops.
Contact: Richard Georgia, 797-5078

LAMDA SIGMA EPSILON, BIOLOGY/HEALTH SCIENCE CLUB

Meets: Tues. or Thurs. Common Hour
Activities: Community service, fund raising, hiking, bird watching, tours
Contact: Dr. James Ingold, 797-5244

CHEMISTRY CLUB

Meets: 10:30 a.m. 1st Thurs. ea. month
Activities: Group activities
Contact: Dr. Wayne Gustavson, 797-5091

DRAMA CLUB

Meets: Thurs. 10:30 a.m. 3rd floor BH
Activities: Dramatic productions, 1st-hand info on auditions in local prod., volunteer work.
Contact: Jorji Jarzabek, 797-5228

ENGLISH CLUB

Meets: 2nd Tues. ea. month
Activities: Annual book fair, poetry readings, faculty presentations, socials.
Contact: Tom Dubose, 797-5158

FORIEGN LANGUAGE CLUB

Meets: 1st & 3rd Tues. ea. month
Activities: Guest Speakers, foriegn films, various charity events.
Contact: Joe Patrick, 797-5390

GOVERNMENT & LAW SOCIETY

Meets: once a month
Activities: Speakers & debates, etc.
Contact: Prof. William D. Pederson, 797-5351

HEALTH & PHYS. ED. CLUB

Meets: Tues. or Thurs. 10:30
Activities: "Almost Anything Goes" for LSUS, judge field days for elementary's
Contact: Maxie Foster, 797-7294

LOUISIANA ASSC. OF EDUCATORS

Meets: Once a month
Activities: Student Teacher reception, math Magic presented at Stoner Hill Elementary.
Contact: Cindy Olson, 797-5032

MBA ASSOCIATION

Meets: once a month
Activities: Seminars with guest speakers on career planning and resume writing, social activities.
Contact: Director of Graduate Studies, College of Business, 797-5017

PI SIGMA EPSILON, MKT & MNGMT

Meets: 2nd & 4th Tues. monthly 10:30
Activities: Conduct sales & mkt. proj. for local bus., social functions.
Contact: Ms. Gayle Norton, 797-5268

PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thurs. monthly 10:30
Activities: Meetings with topics, ie. family violence & therapy. field trips
Contact: Kelly Haydel, 742-4321 or 797-5044

PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENTS SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Meets: twice monthly
Activities: Guest speakers, learn basics of public relations, networking, national and dis. PRSSA meetings, luncheons.
Contact: Kathy Smith, 797-5340

SOCIAL WORK/SOCIOLOGY CLUB

Meets: every other Thurs.
Activities: Guest speakers on psych related topics, community svc. projects
Contact: Ms. Kenna Franklin, Dr. Dolch, 797-5351

SOCIETY or HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Meets: 1st & 3rd Tues. ea. month
Activities: Seminars, guest speaker luncheons at the University Club, Mentorship prog.
Contact: Gwen Smith 797-5024 & Dr. Vassar, 797-5020

STUDENT COUNCIL for EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

Meets: 1st & 3rd Fri. monthly
Activities: Service proj. involving handicapped children.
Contact: Dr. Alan Thompson & Joe Patrick, 797-5390

Campus Calendar

THURS. 05: CHINESE MAGIC REVUE, 8:00 P.M. UC THEATER. INTERVIEW ORIENTATION 10:30 AD 218.

SAT. 07: PROFICIENCY EXAM, 7:30 A.M. BH

TUES. 10: CHANCELLOR'S COFFEE, 10:30 A.M. LOUISIANA A&B UC. MINI-WORKSHOP (NETWORKING) 10:30 AD 213

TUES. 17: MINI-WORKSHOP (RESUME WRITING), 10:30 AD 213.

THURS. 19: MINI-WORKSHOP (INTERVIEWING), 10:30 AD 213

LSU-Medical Center intramural fees questioned

David Eleuterius
Almagest

There has been some recent controversy surrounding the payments LSU Medical Center has been making to LSUS for their participation in the intramural programs. LSUS had in years past been taking a flat \$2,000 fee from LSUMC for the cost of participation. A bill passed in 1994 by the SGA had changed the flat fee to an amount determined by the actual cost of LSUMC's involvement.

The fee covers the cost of scheduling, administrating, and conducting the games. LSUMC has not participated the last two years in LSUS' intramural program, but this year they have returned and paid the original \$2,000 flat fee, according to Karen Mischlich, director of student activities. Each LSUMC team is

responsible for their respective individual team fee.

Mischlich said that LSUS was trying to charge "higher fees without justification."

"The result is that if the program costs \$5,000 to run, then the money to make up the difference comes from the student fund," said Wood. "I don't have a problem if they pay their fair share," he added.

Dr. Gloria Raines, vice-chancellor of student affairs, stated the program as it exists is acceptable and beneficial to both sides.

"I believe the \$2,000 fee is very fair. When the SGA bill, the Medical Center decided that was too much to pay and they stayed out."

The SGA bill stands, but no one cares.